Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

They seem to have learned but little of civilization, and yet to have lost some of the distinctive traits of the traditional noble savage.

The illustrations in these books are most interesting, and the maps, 14 sheets in all, on a scale of 1:100,000, admirably printed in colour, are in every way creditable to Madame Coudreau, who honours the memory of her husband by continuing with scientific method the work so well begun by him.

North America. By Israel C. Russell. VIII plates (colored maps) and 39 figures in text. D. Appleton & Co. Pp. x + 435.

This volume is intended to give a condensed "readable account of the leading facts concerning the North American continent which, from the point of view of the geographer, seems most interesting and instructive." This is the expressed purpose of the author, and the purpose has been successfully carried out.

The area of the continent is so vast that completeness of treatment is out of the question in a volume of this size. To the American reader it seems singularly inappropriate that but a single volume in this *Regions of the Earth* series should be given to the North American continent, while five volumes are devoted to Europe. The limitations of space are felt at every point. While it is true, as the author indicates in his preface, that our recorded knowledge is incomplete in many points, it is not so incomplete or so inadequate that any very large part of that which is known of the geography of North America, and which is interesting and instructive, can be got into one volume of little more than 400 pages. Had two or three volumes been devoted to the continent it would have been possible to treat many topics more satisfactorily and to have introduced many things which are necessarily omitted.

1, The Margin of the Continent; 2, The Topography of the Land; 3, The Climate; 4, The Plant Life; 5, The Animal Life; 6, The Geology; 7, The Aborigines; and 8, The Political Geography, are the titles of the eight chapters which the book contains. Economic geography receives but little attention, as the author recognizes in his preface; but the slight development of this phase of the subject is due, not to lack of appreciation of its importance, but to lack of space.

The chapter on "The Margin of the Continent" contains much material which is not ordinarily found in text-books, and will be helpful to many students and teachers. This chapter is, on the whole, one of the most satisfactory of the book, largely because it is less abbreviated.

Topographically the continent is divided into five parts. These are (1) the Coastal Plains and Plateaus, of which the country between the Atlantic Ocean and the Appalachian Mountains affords typical examples; (2) the Atlantic Mountains, as the mountains of the eastern part of the continent are called; (3) the Continental Basin, which includes the great area between the eastern and western mountains; (4) the Pacific mountains, which include the Rockies and all the area to the west of them; and (5) the Caribbean Province. The topography of these several provinces, most of which are subdivided, is briefly characterized, and their salient features effectively brought out. No other equally brief description does this so well.

The chapter on climate is really a chapter on meteorology and climate. At first thought one is disposed to doubt the propriety of discussing the elementary principles of meteorology in such a book, but it is possible that popular knowledge on this subject is in such a state as to make this discussion necessary. The chapter outlines the various climatic provinces, and gives an account of each. The map showing climatic provinces might well have had some fuller explanation. As we understand it, this map is based on temperature rather than on climate.

The chapter on plant life, devoted chiefly to trees, especially to those of economic importance, is, in general, an excellent one. The author is right in making water more important than temperature as a determinant of broad differences in vegetation. The botanist may think that sufficient attention is not given to the interesting plants of the arid region. The cactus and other arid types of Mexico are classed with the tropical forest, and the sagebrush seems to form an appendix to the prairie. Most botanists divide land vegetation into forest, grass-land, and desert, making three divisions of co-ordinate rank.

In discussing the origin of prairies the author omits one of the factors that is scarcely second to rainfall in importance, namely, windy winters, which induce high and ruinous transpiration. Argentina, with heavy rainfall, has prairies for this reason.

The chapter on animal life deals with mammals and birds. In addition to a brief and very general statement concerning these animals, a fuller account is given of various interesting species, such as the bison.

In the popular style of writing which is necessary in such a volume, and with the author's limitations of space, some statements appear which might well have been modified, qualified, or expanded.

Thus, continental shelves are stated (p. 6) to be largely constructional forms. While this statement is true, there is in this connection no statement as to any other possible origin. It would probably have been equally true, for example, to say that the continental shelves are largely the result of crustal movements, or of wave-cutting. Again, berg-carried debris (p. 7) is said to be deposited mainly on the coastal shelves, because the cold currents which carry the bergs follow the coast. While this statement is not untrue, a better reason is that bergs do not carry much debris far, after they set sail. Little debris is carried by Greenland bergs a distance equal to the width of a wide coastal shelf. The banks of eastern Newfoundland are said to be "probably due in large part to debris deposited by the glaciers." These banks are very likely covered by glacial debris, but that the banks are primarily of glacial origin is extremely improbable. Again, the statement (p. 27) that "the great elevations arising from the floor of the 'deeps' (Caribbean region) are upraised blocks of the earth's crust," might have been supplemented by the at least equally plausible statement that the "deeps" are sunken blocks of the earth's crust. The same comment might be made concerning the statement on page 96. Shaler is cited (p. 26) as saying that sand grains "are not worn out." The reason assigned is "that after the sand grains have been reduced to a certain size, they retain films of water, which separate them from one another and act as cushions which prevent the grains from coming in contact, thus greatly retarding their comminution." The last clause of the quotation implies, and correctly, that sand grains may be worn out, but the reason for their slow reduction when they become small is much better stated in another way. The small grains retain no thicker films of water than large ones; but when the grains get sufficiently small they have little momentum when moved, so do not strike one another with force enough to effect much wear, the film of water helping to protect them. The statement that thunderstorms are unknown in the Far North should be modified so as to read that thunderstorms are very rare in that region. They are not quite unknown.

Certain statements, too, will occasionally confirm popular misapprehensions; thus, it is stated (p. 11) that "at the north there are six months of sunlight and six months of darkness each year." This is what most teachers teach their pupils. Whatever the teacher may understand by the expression, the pupil generally understands that almost anywhere far north of the place where he lives, and certainly north of the Arctic Circle, there is a period of six months of uninterrupted sunlight followed by a period of six months of uninterrupted darkness—an understanding which is far from the truth.

A few errors which are typographic, or slips of the pen, may be noted. Thus Lianas (p. 219) are not "aërial roots," but vines. Iron mountain is located (p. 92) in the northeastern part of Missouri. Ouachita is said (p. 93) to be pronounced "Wichitaw" (instead of Washitaw), etc.

All these are minor matters, and since they are mentioned it should be added that in view of the limitations of space imposed on the author it would have been difficult to have prepared a more acceptable book. It is so thoroughly readable and reliable that it ought to have wide use. The maps are Bartholomew's and are excellent. S.

The Cyclones of the Far East. By Rev. José Algué, S. J., Director of the Philippine Weather Bureau, Manila Observatory. Department of the Interior, Weather Bureau. Second (revised) Edition. 4to. Manila, 1904. Pp. 283, Pls. LIV, Figs. 6.

The work of the Manila Observatory was begun under the auspices of the Jesuit Fathers in the year 1865. The first storm warnings were issued by Father Faura in 1879. The meteorological investigations carried out at this Observatory have since become known all over the world, and now that the Philippine Weather Bureau has been established (1901) under the American Philippine Commission, the work is rapidly being extended and improved. Although active along many lines, the Philippine Jesuit Fathers have always laid the chief emphasis on the study of the typhoons of the Philippine region, for these are not only the most interesting, but also the most dangerous of all meteorological phenomena in the Eastern Seas, and over the immediately adjacent land areas. The first report upon these typhoons was issued in 1897, under the title *Baguios ó Ciclónes Filipinos, Estudio teórico-práctico*, a quarto, paper-covered monograph of 307 pages, which was at once welcomed as the most complete discussion of the subject, and took a very prominent place in the literature of cyclonology. This book was translated into German by Dr. Paul Bergholz under the title *Die Orkane des fernen Ostens* (1900), and Dr. Robert H. Scott, formerly Secretary of the Meteorological Council of the Royal Society, translated Dr. Bergholz's translation into English (*The Hurricanes of the Far East*, 1901). Father José Algué, who wrote the original mono-